

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Youichi SAITOH *et al.*
Serial No.:
Filed : Herewith
Title : OPTICAL INFORMATION PROCESSOR AND OPTICAL ELEMENT

Art Unit :
Examiner :

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the application as follows and consider the included remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following paragraph before the "Field of the Invention" heading:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS:

This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/436,847, filed November 9, 1999.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-17 and 62-77, and amend claims 50 and 56 as follows. Marked-up versions of the amended claims are attached.

50. (Amended) The optical information processor according to claim 18, further comprising:

second photodetectors for receiving light separated by the separation element, wherein at least a part of light outside the aperture NA2(R) in the second optical path is led to the second photodetectors.

